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Item 1

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Eusebio Azene Lopez, ex Cuban Consul in Mexico was born circa 1911 in Havana Cuba. His passport number was 0/59/459.

Circa 1952 Azene was living in France and was arrested by French authorities on charges resulting from his involvement in smuggling penicillin and other antibiotics into France. He was in jail for 16 months.

In a January 3, 1963 report, Headquarters reported extreme interest in mounting an operation aimed at the recruitment of Azene. The report states that Azene was an architect, intelligent, who felt for Cubans but unfortunately has communist tendencies. Most of the file deals with the efforts of Carlos Rodriguez to recruit Azene for the CIA.

Amongst those reporting on Azene for CIA and attempting to recruit him were: [Initials - 3], [Initials - 7], [Initials - 9] and Am. Kurb - 1.

Lawrence P. Barker met [Initials - 9] <sup>Nov. 4, 1963</sup> who stated that he saw Azene kidding with Sylvia Duran recently in the office -- kidding her for being a Communist. Sylvia replied, "It's not true. I am not a Stalinist and I have never been interested in Party membership." [Initials - 9] thinks Sylvia is a very intelligent girl. He thinks we may be able to gain her cooperation by getting a desirable male next to her -- she is, according to [Initials - 9], "a little jumpy." (This memo is not complete.)

Azene left for Cuba Nov. 18, 1963.

There is a Target Personality Data form filled out on him completed March 10, 1967. <sup>Page 5-6-67</sup> In the Table / Contents is:

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Curriculum Vitae

1911 - mid 1950's Spain employed at Cuban Embassy in Madrid in Spain

1952 France Smuggling activities

1953-1958 Mexico

1958-1963 Nov 18 Mexico Cuban Consul smuggling guns +

Nov 63-65 Cuba → immunities to Cuba

Nov 5, Dec 17

employed in June Plan

1945 - Head of National Council of Culture

responsibility of the National Council / Culture

last dated  
report

News for Rights - [Excerpt - 9], Nov. 15, 1966

Ayene was called in about Sept. 16 by Omerio Cienfuegos and almost fired from his job. Cienfuegos was also critical of Ayene. Ayene who had been given the responsibility of the Pavilion at the Expo 67 in Montreal had apparently failed miserably in fulfilling his job. Cienfuegos who considered the Expo 67 affair a very very important event told Ayene he had "abandoned" the project and done nothing. Ayene was at the point of being fired when he produced a letter he had written to a gov't organization which asked for assistance and it had not been forthcoming. This letter apparently "saved" Ayene from being summarily fired from his post but it did not stop Cienfuegos from relieving Ayene of his responsibilities re Expo 67. This run-in with Cienfuegos has made Ayene a very bitter man, and he wants to get out of Cuba as soon as possible. (→) His plans are to leave Cuba for Mexico around the end of the year (in pencil '66). Ayene plans to use a book vertebrae as "cover" to get to Mexico.

Elena Garro de Paz also supplied information on him but unreliable.

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CIA went as far as to contemplate getting agency involved in a discrediting but, allowing him to embarrass himself and then attempting to recruit him.

We do not know if agency ever went to Hanoi as planned in late 66 for the file ends and no further reports are included.

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Summary of Material in Silvia Duran 201 not in LHO Mexico file.

1. Silvia Duran's 201 file was opened by a "Personality File Action Request" on 5/12/63 (s.c). The source document was DIR-84950 dated 11/25/63.
2. A report made by Bruce O. Sturgess from Mexico City, dated ~~TMM-630~~ <sup>RIP. #</sup> 6/18/48, (TMM-630), ~~source~~ concerns "Recent developments in the Mexican Communist Party." It seems that the leadership of the party thought that the JEFATURA de Policia of Mexico were working with the American Embassy to infiltrate and disrupt the party. Consequently the party had some people under observation. They were: Dolores BRAVO, Lina Duran and Carlos SANCHEZ CARDENAS. The report goes on to say:

"The individuals making these observations state that Carlos Sanchez Cardenas and his followers are working for the United States.

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Source stated this opinion is based on the fact that Srta. Lim Duran has a brother, Horatio Duran, who at one time was a member of the Mexican Communist Party but was later expelled when it was discovered that he was a secret agent of the Jefatura de Policia. Source stated that Horatio Duran has recently been seen at all of the places in the Federal District where secret agents of the Jefatura de Policia have appeared."

3. DIR 84950 is a dissemination to the FBI: re: Duran's contact with Oswald.

4. DIR 85670, dated 11/29/63 is a dissemination to FBI, State and the White House. Duran is reported as describing Oswald as "being blond, short, and not elegantly dressed." The report goes on to say:

"He said Oswald was not granted a visa and that the consul told him that in order to get one he would first need a visa from the Soviet Consulate that this

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procedure would take about four months. She said the Cuban Consul urged Oswald to leave Mexico and that Oswald became angry. She said that Oswald returned to the consulate later that same day, at which time it was confirmed to him that the Soviet visa was required and would take about four months."

5. DIR 85758, dated 11/29/63 is dissemination to the FBI, State and the White House. It is a "rush translation" \*of the Mexican police report of ~~James~~ Duran's interrogation.

a. Duran admitted to two contacts w/ Oswald.

b. Oswald contacted the Russian ~~Emb~~ Consulate "by direction from her."

c. The report repeats the description of Oswald in 4. above.

d. The report goes on to say: "That he was denied a visa because the consul told him that in order to obtain one he would first

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need a visa from the Russian Consulate and this procedure would take about four months and urged Oswald to leave Mexico. Oswald became angry and for this reason she had to call the consul with whom he had an argument. That Oswald was told that the aid which could be given to him was to advise him to go to the Russian Consulate. The Consul then spoke by telephone to the person in charge of that office, and was informed that the case would have to be referred to Moscow and that there would be a four month delay. That in the afternoon of the same day Lee Harvey Oswald returned to the Cuban Consulate and that she confirmed that he would only be given a visa when he had one from the Russian Consulate.

C. The following people were arrested with Duran:  
1. Ruben Duran Navarro.

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who is Horatio's brother  
& was married to Betty  
Serratos. Rubin stated  
he was a friend of General  
Jose de Jesus Clark Flores,  
whom he accompanied on  
a trip to Russia.

2. Betty Serratos de Duran

3. Lidia Duran Navarro  
wda de Flores - sister of  
Rubin Duran

4. Agata Roseno Garcia:  
friend

5. Barbara Ann Bliss.

Friend of Betty Serratos

6. Charles E. Bentley: tourist  
friend of Betty Serratos.

f. a photostatic copy of  
the original report in  
Spanish was being  
forwarded.

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